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October 24, 2003

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
Boston, MA 02110

Re: Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a
NSTAR Electric, D.T.E. 02-80B, Proposed Procedural Schedule

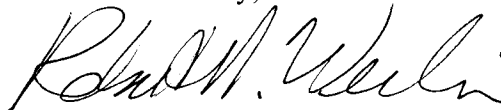
Dear Secretary Cottrell:

The Attorney General and Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company d/b/a NSTAR Electric are actively engaged in settlement negotiations in the above-referenced, pending reconciliation case. We have jointly prepared the enclosed procedural schedule that would encompass time to complete negotiations, and, if they are not successful, to proceed with the adjudication of the case.

The proposed schedule establishes a December 1 date for the filing of a settlement. During that time, the Attorney General will be requesting and reviewing information, the parties will then negotiate the terms of a settlement, and (hopefully) settlement documents will be prepared and approved by senior management of both organizations. As in the past, the review and agreement regarding a full year's worth of information is a time-consuming process. But, if the parties succeed in settling the case (as we have in the past), it is well worth the effort.

Accordingly, NSTAR Electric and the Attorney General request that the Department adopt the enclosed schedule. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert N. Werlin

Enclosure

cc: Caroline Bulger, Hearing Officer
Service List

PROPOSED PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

Cambridge Electric Light Company/Commonwealth Electric Company, D.T.E. 02-80B

December 1, 2003	Settlement Filing Date
December 15, 2003	Discovery Ends (if no settlement)
January 6, 2003	Discovery responses due
January 27, 2003	Hearings